REGIONAL TRAINING ON THE NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF STATISTICS (NSDS)

Virtual Training

8-10 December 2026

Organized by the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (PARIS21)

and the United Nations Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP)

1. Rationale

National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (NSDSs) are the primary planning instrument for strengthening national statistical systems (NSSs). They help countries identify priorities, coordinate stakeholders, mobilise resources and align investments in data and statistics with national development objectives and international commitments. As demands for timely, granular and high-quality data continue to grow, effective strategic planning is essential to ensure that statistical systems remain relevant, sustainable and responsive to evolving policy needs.

Many countries continue to face challenges such as limited resources, fragmented data ecosystems, weak coordination across institutions and increasing reporting requirements. At the same time, NSSs are operating in a rapidly changing environment shaped by financial constraints, technological innovation, emerging data sources and growing expectations from policymakers and other data users. National statistical offices are therefore expected not only to produce official statistics, but also to lead and coordinate broader statistical systems and engage with evolving data ecosystems that support evidence-based decision-making.

In this context, NSDSs provide a valuable framework for assessing statistical capacities, prioritising investments and planning for long-term system development. They also offer an opportunity to address emerging priorities, including the responsible adoption of artificial intelligence, the growing demand for climate change-related data, and stronger engagement with data users to ensure that statistics effectively inform policy and development outcomes.

Integrating these considerations into strategic planning can help countries build more agile, innovative, inclusive, and user-centred statistical systems.

Against this backdrop, the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (PARIS21) and the United Nations Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP) are organising a regional training course on strategic planning for statistics and the design of NSDSs. The training will provide practical guidance on the NSDS lifecycle and methodology, explore how AI, climate change, gender statistics, and data use considerations can be incorporated into strategic planning, and facilitate the sharing of country experiences and good practices to support stronger and more future-ready national statistical systems.

The training aims to strengthen participants' ability to identify practical entry points for applying these approaches in their respective national statistical systems, contributing to more effective, sustainable and responsive statistical development.

Restricted Use - À usage restreint

2. Training Objectives

The objective of the training course is to strengthen the capacity of NSOs to design impactful and future-proof NSDSs that enhance sustainability of statistical systems and promote innovation.

More specifically, participants will be able to:

- Understand the **NSDS Lifecycle and associated Guidelines**, and considerations for developing NSDS that nurture resilient, agile and sustainable statistical systems;
- Explore best practices in **integrating AI into strategic planning for statistics**, as a tool to foster innovation and modernization of NSOs
- Learn about the opportunities of **responding to climate change data demand through NSDS** and how this addition can foster statistical development
- Discuss how **data use can be brought to the forefront of statistical planning** and key recommendations to create user-centric systems
- Share **experiences and country practices** around strategic planning to statistics to foster peer-learning across the region, and identify practical opportunities for applying the lessons learned in their own institutional contexts.

3. Target Audience

The training is mainly targeted at NSO staff responsible for the design, implementation, coordination, monitoring, or evaluation of the NSDS/strategic plan on statistics and/or its implementation.

It will help staff carrying out coordination tasks across the NSS and those leading the development, monitoring and evaluation of NSDSs.

Participants are expected to share/present country practices and experiences around strategic planning for statistics to enrich cross-country learning. Please be prepared to participate in plenaries and interactive breakout sessions during the training.

Date and Delivery Modality

- Dates: 8-10 December 2026
- Modality: Virtual training
- Duration: Three sessions of 90 minutes
- Time: 16:00–17:30 Japan Standard Time (JST) each day
- Language: English

The training will combine technical presentations, country experiences, interactive discussions and opportunities for peer learning.

Evaluation and Follow-up

Participants will be invited to share their expectations at registration, including how they anticipate using the knowledge and skills gained from the training in their respective institutions.

At the end of the training, participants will be asked to complete an evaluation covering the relevance and usefulness of the sessions, key learning outcomes, and opportunities to apply the approaches discussed in their national statistical systems. Where possible, feedback will be compared with

Restricted Use - À usage restreint

participants' initial expectations to better understand changes in their knowledge, perspectives and intended applications.

Participants are also encouraged to share with PARIS21 and SIAP, including after the training, how they have applied the knowledge and approaches gained from the course in the development, implementation or review of their NSDSs. This may include specific initiatives, institutional practices, challenges encountered, or emerging results.

Such feedback will help PARIS21 and SIAP better understand the results of their capacity development efforts, identify opportunities for further technical support and collaboration, and inform future training programmes.

Participants may share their experiences and feedback with **PARIS21 at paz.patino@oecd.org**, copying **SIAP at escap-siaptraining@un.org**.

4. Draft Training Agenda

Time (Tokyo)	Agenda Item	Speaker
DAY 1: Tuesday, 8 December 2026		
16:00 - 16:10	Welcome participants and housekeeping information	SIAP
16:10 – 16:25	Opening remarks Deputy Director of SIAP Deputy Head of PARIS21	
	Overview of the training course *Objectives and agenda*	PARIS21
16:25 – 17:00	**Taking stock of NSDS design globally** • Introduction to NSDS Guidelines • Launch NSDS Observatory/ Interactive activity • Crucial considerations for an effective NSDS	PARIS21
17:00 – 17:15	• **Peer-learning.** NSDS design: lessons-learned, challenges, and opportunities	DOSM, Malaysia (tbd)
17:15 – 17:30	Q&A Discussions	All participants
DAY 2: Wednesday, 9 December 2026		
16:00 - 16:45	**AI for official statistics- A priority for strategic planning for statistics** • Global discussions on AI for official statistics • Assessing AI readiness as part of NSDS design • AI action plans: why and how?	PARIS21
16:45 - 17:00	**Peer-learning.** AI readiness assessment and planning for future innovation	BPS, Indonesia (tbd)

Restricted Use - À usage restreint

Time (Tokyo)	Agenda Item	Speaker
17:00 - 17:30	Q&A Discussions	All participants
DAY 3: Thursday 10 December 2026		
16:00 - 16:30	**Climate Change Data Ecosystems: what can action plans support?** • Mobilizing CCDEs Framework • Cross-country lessons • Priorities for SIDS	PARIS21 All participants
16:30 – 17:00	**Responding to data users and policymaking: what can be useful to know when designing an NSDS?** • Key considerations for data use • The role of the NSDS in enabling data use • Recommendations for the future	PARIS21 All participants
17:00 – 17:15	**Peer learning.** Making the leap from what we know about data use to what we plan Q&A	NSO Maldives (tbd)
17:15 – 17:30	**Evaluation and closing**	**SIAP & PARIS21**

Restricted Use - À usage restreint